DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL MAYOR



March 18, 2019

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani
The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
and Members of the Senate
Committee on Education
State Capitol, Room 229
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee:

SUBJECT: Testimony on Senate Resolution 58/Senate Concurrent Resolution 81

The Department of Transportation Services is in <u>strong support</u> of this resolution, and our office oversees the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program for the City and County of Honolulu.

This measure promotes broader participation by all public schools in SRTS, and DTS encourages all schools to join the program. A SRTS plan can help schools, parents, and the community identify ways to make it safer for children to walk and bike to/from school and create partnerships to achieve SRTS goals. The SRTS program is also comprehensive in that it considers five E's to encourage children to walk and bike more to/from school: Education, Encouragement, Engineering, Enforcement, and Evaluation.

DTS encourages every school to have SRTS plan regardless of the number of children who currently walk or bicycle. We are working on a project near Fern Elementary School that proposes a separated walkway for pedestrians on Kamehameha IV Road and Kahauiki Street where there is currently no sidewalk for children to use on their way to school.

Expanded participation in this program means more children in more communities statewide will have safe and healthy options to travel between home and school.

The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim Testimony on SR 58/SCR 81 March 18, 2019 Page 2

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony

Very truly yours,

Wes Frysztacki

Director

SCR-81

Submitted on: 3/16/2019 10:45:08 PM

Testimony for EDU on 3/18/2019 2:45:00 PM

| Submitted By | | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Ma | ary Smart | Individual | Oppose | No |

Comments:

Vote no. We don't need government to promote one way or another how students get to school. This is another waste of time, effort, and tax dollars for little (or no) results. It is time to concentrate on solving the problems that we care about and this is not one of them. When candidates were running for officle last year, I didn't hear one candidate say this is a pressing issue for their community. And way not? Because it isn't important. What I heard from just about every candidate was they were worried about the high cost of living. It is non-essential programs/studies like this that make Hawaii unaffordable. Do not pass this bill.